# From The Prez

## Toby, WT8O

### FREE Family and Friends Picnic

The annual CARS picnic will begin at 5:00 PM on Friday, August 23rd at the Kiwanis Pavilion behind the Independence Civic Center; a map is available on the CARS website homepage. As always, the admission price for the event will be FREE – that's zero, zip, nada. On top of that, the invitation extends to all CARS members, their families, friends, and neighbors.

Naturally, we'll have the grille flaming and be cooking burgers, brats, and dogs. The club will supply the fixins of lettuce, sliced or chopped onions, tomatoes, cheese, and condiments, as well as potato salad and macaroni salad. Of course we will have a great selection of ice-cold soft drinks.

Guests are encouraged to provide side dishes or deserts.

We will also have a call-in station using the 146.82 CARS repeater. Stations checking in will be entered in a special prize drawing. There will be drawing using tickets each attendee will be given upon arrival when signing in.

In addition we will have a 50/50 drawing that always yields a substantial cash prize for the winner.

Members wishing to attend are requested to sign up by calling me at 440-525-6109, emailing me at wt8o@att.net, or by indicating their intentions on the weekly net or the August club meeting. If at all possible, it would be nice to mention if you plan to bring a side dish or desert.

Suggestions for activities to make the picnic more fun would also be welcomed and appreciated.

## Last Summer Picnic Meeting

As the days get shorter and the summer season nears its end, this is your last chance to attend one of our ever popular summer picnic meetings for 2024. If you have never been to one of these meetings, mark your calendar for Tuesday, August 13th and make the scene. We usually start our business meetings at 7:30, but the picnic meetings have members gathering by six or six-thirty so they can throw grillables on the fire Robert, K8RGI, is kind enough to always start in advance for us. Some get there early to enjoy the company of fellow hams even if they don't cook out.

Joe, KD8BAL, has lined up a very interesting program featuring Josh Van Dyke, W8HRF, who will speak about the many interesting aspects of POTA – "Parks on the Air."

For the last decade or so, we have held these events at the Harriet Keeler pavilion in the Brecksville Reservation of the of the Cleveland Metroparks. If you're not familiar with the location, our illustrious webmaster Matt, KE8OZU, has a map link on the CARS website home page. This year we have been blessed with near perfect weather and a lack of mosquitoes.

*The group gathers for the Ed Fong, WB6IQN, presentation.*

*Ron, K8RJH, readies the equipment for the Zoom meeting with Ed Fong.*

# July 2024 Meeting Minutes

The meeting opened at 7:34 PM with the pledge of allegiance, then introductions of all members present.

Meeting minutes for June meeting were approved by the membership as they were published in the *WO*.

*Officer's reports.*

**Treasurer**

- Complete license transfer.
- We have 500 dollars less than last month.
- Insurances were paid.

**President**

- Yuri Sivitski, KF8BFM, was voted in for membership unanimously.

- The need for mentoring sessions was mentioned.

*Al, KF8BCC; Matt, KE8OZU, and Toby, WT8O, get the meeting started.*

-Jack Andrisin, W8JAK/SK, passed away.
-Toby asked for volunteers to edit the *WO.*
-Voted on selling equipment in the *WO* - (passed).
-Members need to check roster for accuracy.
-The club added fifteen new ham members.

**Vice President**

-ARLL updates:
-Antenna tech info, Student membership program, log book is back up, more classes, podcasts, and Field Day.

**Secretary**

-Back-up secretary Al Farley, KF8BCC, took minutes for the meeting.

**Committee reports:**

-Field day - went well, not as many contacts as last year.
-Public Service - Pan Ohio ride.
-VE- Next VE session 7/14.
-Program - Ed Fong (Antennas)
-Tech - Internet not up with 5 G for our repeater.
-Refreshment- provided by Al Farley, KF8BCC; Matt, NU8H, and John, NU8Y.

**Old business**

-Bylaw change, 2/3 vote carried.
-10 meter net. Woodchucks have a 10 Meter net on Thursdays at 20:00 on 28.435.
-Two positions need to be filled: Holiday party/Picnic committee chairman.

**New business**

-Picnic – August 23rd.
-Home days for Seven Hills 7/19/24 (4-10) 7/20 (2-10) 7/21 11-9 parking cars.
-Independence days 8/2, 8/3 Bob, K8RGI, is in charge.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Submitted by Al Farley, KF8BCC, CARS Alternate Secretary.

*Dave, WD8IOU, asks Ed Fong a question via Zoom.*

## August Birthdays

| | |
|---|---|
| Brent Grover-K8OOO | 8-7 |
| Eddie Stevens-KD8FTS | 8-14 |
| Ron Hollas-K8RJH | 8-16 |
| Tom Wayne-WB8N | 8-17 |
| Mark Rosewicz-KC8ESG | 8-19 |
| Erin Austin-KD8SLV | 8-22 |
| Gene Stepanik-KE8GUZ | 8-22 |
| Gerald Purcell-KC8LAU | 8-24 |
| Sharon Nicastro-KD8HWQ | 8-28 |
| Mack Flinn-KF8AYT | 8-29 |
| Fred Freer-K8IG | 8-30 |

# July VP Report
# Ron, K8RJH

**Consider the Value of ARRL Membership!**

*Support ARRL with your Membership and renewals!*

**New Antenna Kit available, ARRL Dual-band Momobeam 6/10 Antenna** features a 10-meter Moxon and 6-meter Yagi in one innovative design. Available on the ARRL web site.

**ARRL Update**

Free Student Membership (Age 21 and younger) https://www.arrl.org/join for information!
LOTW is Back-On line – Reported on July 1 2024
Basic EmComm is now available on the ARRL Learning Center
Intermediate EmComm is being revised, availability TBD.

**Latest ARRL Podcasts…** - **Get Ready for Field Day**, and
- **ARRL Forums at Dayton Hamvention**

**ARRL Audio News** – For the latest in Amateur Radio News and Developments, Available and posted weekly every Friday. Check out ARRL.org for the audio link subscriptions to these podcasts.

**Reminder;** Be sure to register and update your NOAA Weather Spotter Status, stormcle@noaa.gov for more information.

# VE Request
# Metro, W8MET

I have been helping the FCC as a Volunteer Examiner by testing and licensing new amateur radio operators. It is rewarding seeing the candidates when I tell them they have passed their exams and say "Congratulation's, you passed." Think how the new candidate feels passing by remembering when you passed your exam.

If you want to try another part of Ham Radio as a Volunteer Examiner, please contact me at 216-520-1320 or metro351@sbcglobal.net .

# Next CARS Meeting

## Tuesday, August 13 - 7:30 PM

## Harriet Keeler Picnic Area
## Brecksville Reservation
## Cleveland Metroparks

## Josh Van Dyke, W8HRF

**Will present a program on:**

## Parks On The Air

**See Website for Details - www.2cars.org**

# Scholarship Winners 2024
# Toby, WT8O

The Scholarship committee selected two well deserving winners to receive the $1,000.00 scholarships this year. CARS member Joel Hurlbert, KE8YOD, and Grace Papay, K8LG, granddaughter of long-time CARS member John Papay, K8YSE, were chosen from the three applicants. The difficult decision was made amid careful consideration and discussion by the committee members. All three applicants submitted heartfelt essays with each earning votes from the team. Fortunately, the third applicant will have a leg up on next year's competition and is strongly encouraged to apply again.

Joel, KE8YOD, will pursue his chosen career as an Emergency Medical Technician by attending the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center. Joel endeared himself to his fellow CARS members at last year's Field Day. With only minimal instruction, he sat down at an HF station operating and making contacts like a veteran. He also operated FT-8 and observed and became interested in CW operation. We hope to see more of Joel in the future as his busy schedule of work, church, and job allows.

Grace, K8LG, will study electrical engineering inspired by her father Doug, K8DP, and grandfather John, K8YSE. For a glimpse into the activities of Grace, check out the link below and be prepared to be extremely impressed by this remarkable young lady.

https://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/contesting-with-grace-grace-papay-k8lg.918459/

On behalf of all CARS members, we wish the upmost success to Joel and Grace.

## CARS Repeaters

**146.820 (-) PL Tone 110.9**

**Analog Repeater**

**Main Site – Brecksville**

**Receive Only Site – Brunswick**

**Receive Only Site – Shaker Hts.**

**Allstar Node 47067**

**EchoLink Node 343470 (K8ZFR-R)**

**WIRES X Node 91242 Room 01242**

**443.825 (+) PL Tone 131.8**

**Digital Yaesu Fusion**

**Linked to 146.820 Repeater**

**Brecksville**

**********

**444.75 (+) PL Tone 131.8**

**Analog Repeater Shaker Hts.**

**Not Linked to Other Repeaters**

*Simpson, N8UZF, and Andy, KD8SCV, brave the hot weather Friday morning setting the CW antennas up in preparation for the big weekend contest. (L)*

*The Hex Beam was ready to blast out CW signals. Notice the rotator installed to direct the signals of the three band antenna. (R)*

# Field Day 2024
# CARS CW Team
# David, AC8TN

Preparing for the CARS CW station for Field Day event required:

1.) Visiting the CW site and making measurements between trees to determine the best location for our two antennas - last week of May.
2.) Launching ropes over the two trees that would support the “flat-top” trapped dipole antenna, mounting the rotator, erecting our 21 foot steel push-up mast, building and installing the three band hex beam, and running coax and rotator cables to tent – Friday morning.
3.) CW tent set-up, including a table, two operator chairs and two guest chairs, fans, and a night light. Helping other CARS Field Day teams set up their stations – Friday evening.
4.) Organizing inside the tent included connecting coax for antennas and rotor, installing three ground rods, setting up the radio equipment, activating the generator, and connecting the computer with logging software - Saturday morning.
5.) Tearing down the station and antenna and returning generator –Sunday afternoon. Elmwood Park in Independence was the new location for CARS Field Day this year. I made my first visit to the park at the end of May with Metro, W8MET, to plan the best locations for our two antennas and to choose a tent location that would have as much afternoon shade as possible. This tent location turned out to be critical because Field Day temps ended up 90° F plus+- for much of the weekend.

The plan was to operate on the 40 and 80 Meter bands with Metro’s trapped dipole strung between two very tall trees. For the upper bands we wanted to erect my Hex Beam for 10, 15, and 20 Meters. The 5 dB gain might give us some advantages over the omnidirectional antennas used by most other Field Day stations.

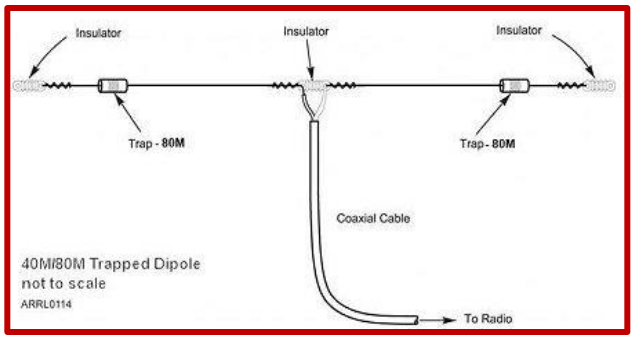
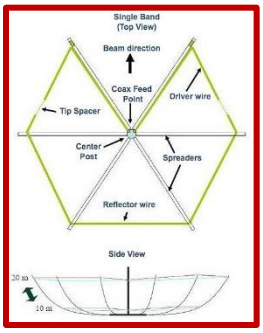



*Illustration of the "flat top" trapped dipole.*

*The hexagonal hub that supports six fiberglass poles and the mast for the Hex Beam.*




*Detailed diagram of the Hex Beam identifying the components.*

I operated with this HEX Beam for eight years. The antenna can be set up to operate on up to 6 different bands. For Field Day it would be built for only three bands. It is a two element Yagi on each band. The driven element takes the shape of a "W", while the reflector approximates a half circle in shape. The beam, made by K4KIO, is a very simple in design. Six, three section telescoping fiberglass poles, six wire elements with a driver wire and reflector wire for each band, an aluminum hexagonal hub which accepts the six fiberglass poles and mast, and finally the center post that's needed to connect all the wire elements to the single coax feed line.

Given all the unknowns, five of us - Andy, KD8SCV; Simpson, N8UZF; Bob, K8RGI; Metro, W8MET, and I arrived at Elwood Park at 7:00 AM on Friday Morning. Raising the dipole would be something we've done many times before, so I left that work to Metro. I focused on transporting, building and erecting the Hex Beam. In addition to the Hex Beam antenna, I also brought my Ham-IV rotator and a 21 foot steel pushup mast. I pre-cut the 12 guy ropes to their proper lengths before arriving to save time during setup. Three hours later, Metro was standing on one eight foot ladder, I was on another, and we were handed the assembled beam by the ground crew. We then set the antenna on the top of the collapsed eight foot telescoping pole and tightened the 7/16" nuts on the aluminum hub's U-bolts to fasten the antenna onto the top of the steel mast. Spreading out the 12 guy ropes and pushing up the mast was next. Finally after the guy lines were tightened, and the mast was more or less vertical, the job was completed.

Friday evening we returned to the park to set up the CW Team tent and aid the other CARS teams in their setup efforts.

Saturday morning at 8:00 AM Bob, K8RGI, graciously provided his Icom 7610 transceiver and it was carefully connected to the antennas, band pass filters, antenna tuner, power supply and Morse code paddles. Three ground rods were pounded into the ground by Metro, Simpson, and Simpson's friend Jordon. Finally rotator control cables were attached to the CDE controller. The CW team was ready to go by 11:00 AM, which gave us a few hours for R&R and do the final station testing when the generator was delivered by Toby, WT8O, and computer and logging programs were set up by Ron, K8RJH. Given some delays everything was a full go on Saturday by 1:50 PM.

The CW station was active the entire 24 hour Field Day period, with operators changing every two hours. I made up a schedule and emailed it to each operator and printed a copy for the CW tent. During the midnight to 8:00 AM shift, Bob, K8RGI, and Ron, K8RJH, manned the station.

Sunday at 2:00 AM the teardown began. Once again Jordon was there, this time pulling out the ground rods by hand with Vice Grips. With lots of help, we got almost everything loaded into the cars before Mother Nature opened up the sky. It rained pretty hard, and we all were soaked through and through. I made two trips to and from my house to take all the equipment home. It was a wonderful weekend!

The 40 Meter dipole got a lot of use during Field Day. The band was open for the entire 24 hour event. The trapped dipole antenna performed well with almost a flat SWR across both bands. I enjoyed operating on 15 and 20 Meters primarily. Turning the beam and watching the
S-meter on the rig going up was very satisfying. I even got a couple QSOs on 10 Meters, even though there was little Field Day activity on that band during my four hours of operating.

Was the HEX Beam antenna a success? I think so. I do know that it sure was fun building it, getting it up about 20 feet off the ground; and yes, even taking it down Sunday afternoon. Thanks to everyone for all the work to get both antennas up and down, setting up and tearing the station, and for the computer logging program and generator. Special thanks to Matt, KE8OZU, and his son for the help on Sunday to take the beam apart before it started to down pour.

I also wanted to give a big THANK YOU to all the CARS CW operators who worked so hard to make contacts and made Field Day so much fun. The CW team consisted of Metro,W8MET; Simpson, N8UZF; Ed, WB8CFO; Bob, KI6DY; Ron, K8RJH; Bob, K8RGI, and George, K8KR.

Also a big THANK YOU to Toby, WT8O, and Bob, K8RGI, for organizing the 2024 CARS Field Day!

Will the CW Team use the Hex Beam at the 2025 Field Day? Time will tell. We'll use it again if we don't come up with something better.

*A close-up photograph of the rotator used to position the Hex Beam during Field Day.*

*Metro, W8MET, and Simpson, N8UZF, operating the CW station during this year's event.*

# Pan Ohio Hope Ride
# Robert, K8GI

The American Cancer Society Pan Ohio Hope Ride is a four-day bicycle tour of Ohio, traveling from Cleveland to Cincinnati. This year it started in Cleveland on Thursday, July 25th and ended in Cincinnati on Sunday July 28th. This is a fundraising event to support the American Cancer Society's Hope Lodge in Cleveland. There were over 200 riders raising an average of $3,216 per rider. The total raised was $1,009,783.

Besides the riders, there are many volunteers needed to make sure everything goes smoothly. Some of these volunteers include Support and Gear people called SAG's. These people, who use their own vehicles, are given MARC's radios to facilitate communications along the route and provide aid or transportation to riders in need.

In the spirit of our club motto "Hams Who Serve", we had three CARS members participate in the Pan Ohio Hope Ride as SAG's, Eddie, KD8FTS; Chuck, K8CVM, and Robert, K8RGI.

# August Net Sked

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Aug** | **7** | **AC8NW** |
| **Aug** | **14** | **AC8TN** |
| **Aug** | **21** | **WT8O** |
| **Aug** | **28** | **K8RJH** |

**Nets are run every Wednesday at 9:00 PM on:**

**146.820 (PL 110.9)**

**443.825(+) PL Tone 131.8**
**Digital Yaesu Fusion / C4FM**
**Linked to the 146.82 Repeater**

**EchoLink Node 343470 (K8ZFR-R)**

**Allstar Node 47067**

**WIRES X Node 91242-Room 01242**

*Matt Welch, W8DEC; Robert Robbins, K8RGI; Chuck Mehozonek, K8CVM; Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS, and Carl Gedeon, KB8VXE.*

# July VE Session

Once again, Metro, W8MET, competently led his outstanding VE team consisting of Gary, NI8Z; George, K8KR; Roger, N8TCP; Fred, K8IG, and Linda, N8LRS, to another successful VE Session on Sunday July 14th, 2023, at the Old Elmwood Recreation Center in Independence.

Congratulations to Eric Pfuhl, KF8BED, who upgraded to General, and William Thelen, N2WZO, who upgraded to Amateur Extra, well done by both.

The next VE testing session will be held Sunday, September 8th, at 9:15 AM at the Old Elmwood Recreation Center, 6200 Pete Wisniesky Parkway, Independence 44131. Directions and a map are on the CARS website homepage. For information or an appointment please contact Metro, W8MET, at:

216-520-1320
or
metro351@sbcglobal.net

As always, walk-ins are welcome.

The *Wobbly Oscillator* is a publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society.

Articles from this publication may be reprinted in any ham radio publication, if credit is given to this publication and the author, if known.

All submissions should be emailed to:
Toby Kolman, WT8O at:
wt8o@att.net

## Honorary Members

**Any person who by nature of outstanding or meritorious contribution to the furtherance of amateur radio and the ideals of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society**

**Robert Check, W8GC**
**Elected 2/10/15**

**Thomas Wayne, WB8N**
**Elected 1/10/17**

**Dwaine Modock, K8ME/SK**
**Elected 5/9/17**

**Toby Kolman, WT8O**
**Elected 10/10/17**

**Jerry Smith, NW9H**
**Elected 5/8/18**

**Ron Borkey, K8VJG/SK**
**Elected 5/14/19**

**Ed Stevens, WB8ROK/SK**
**Elected 8/10/21**

**Vince Bak, N8OVW/SK**
**Elected 11/14/23**

# 2024 CARS Committees, Officers, Board and Trustees

## CARS 2024 Committees

### 50/50
Chair: Andy Evridge, KD8SCV

### Audio/Video
Chair: Scott Smith, AC8NW

### Awards
Co-Chairs: Bob Check, W8GC and Toby Kolman, WT8O

### Fund Raising
Chair: Bob Check, W8GC
Members: Ron Hollas, K8RJH, Matt Perlman, KE8OZU and Gary Schmid, WA8GCR

### ARRL Liaison
Chair: Ron Hollas, K8RJH

### Audit
Chair: Ron Hollas, K8RJH
Members: Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS and Toby Kolman, WT8O

### Field Day
Co-Chairs: Bob Robbins, K8RGI and Toby Kolman, WT8O
Members: Scott Smith, AC8NW, David Korow, AC8TN, Arp Viiberg, K8ARP, Ron Hollas, K8RJH, Andy Evridge, KD8SCV and Mark Moro, WJ8WM

### Hamvention Bus
Chair: Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS
Member: Toby Kolman, WT8O

## Historian

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O

## Holiday Party, Summer Picnic

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O
Members: Arp Viiberg, K8ARP, Kim Balach Costa, KD8FTU, Diane Balach, KD8FTV and Mark Moro, WJ8WM

## License Classes

Chair: David Noeth, KD8ACO
Members: Joel Chaney, K8SHB and Toby Kolman, WT8O

## Media Representative

Chair: Andy Evridge, KD8SCV

## Membership

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O
Member: Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

## Net

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O
Members: Scott Smith, AC8NW, David Korow, AC8TN, Ron Hollas, K8RJH and David Noeth, KD8ACO

## Newsletter

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O

## Programs at Meetings

Chair: Joe Ulaszewski, KD8BAL
Members: Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS and Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

## Property to Sell Custodian

Chair: Bob Check, W8GC

## Public Service

Chair: Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS
Member: Arp Viiberg, K8ARP

## QSL Manager

Chair: Metro Sinko, W8MET

## Quartermaster

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O

## Records Custodian

Chair: Terry Pillatt, KB8DTC

## Refreshments - Coffee

Chair: John Dernar, NU8Y

## Refreshments - Donuts

Chair: Matt Neely, NU8H

## Refreshments - Pop

Chair: Ron Hollas, K8RJH

## Scholarship

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O
Members: Bob Robbins, K8RGI, Ron Hollas, K8RJH, Matt Perlman, KE8OZU and Mark Moro, WJ8WM

## Sunshine (Welfare)

Chair: Andy Evridge, KD8SCV

### Technical

Chair: Scott Smith, AC8NW
Members: Mark Scoville, AD8KE, Ron Hollas, K8RJH, Terry Pillatt, KB8DTC, Mark Rosewicz, KC8ESG, David Noeth, KD8ACO and Mark Moro, WJ8WM

### VE Exams

Chair: Metro Sinko, W8MET

### Webmaster/email

Chair: Bob Check, W8GC
Member: Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

## 2024 Officers

### President

Toby Kolman, WT8O
440-525-6109
wt8o@att.net

### Vice-President

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216-379-7440
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### Secretary

Matt Neely, NU8H
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matt@matthewneely.com
Alternate Secretary: Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

### Treasurer

Matt Perlman, KE8OZU
216-337-1540
matt@seagem.me

## CARS 2024 Executive Board

### Board Chair

Mark Moro, WJ8WM
216-496-2871
Alternate: Arp Viiberg, K8ARP

### Even Year Board Members

Scott Smith, AC8NW, John Dernar, NU8Y and Mark Moro, WJ8WM

### Odd Year Board Members

Arp Viiberg, K8ARP, Bob Robbins, K8RGI and Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS

# CARS License Trustees

## K8ZFR Trustee

Toby Kolman, WT8O

## W8BM Trustee

Mark Moro, WJ8WM

## W8HBI Trustee

Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

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